REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a crossreference to the previously filed International Application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

Bv

Michael K. Mutter,

, #29**/**6

MKM/cqc 3672-0111P P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

(Rev. 02/12/01)